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Holidays

The Brunei Government working days are Monday through Thursday and Saturday. Friday and Sunday are considered holidays. Application must be made to Customs for working on Friday and Sunday and other public holidays.

Brunei, being a Muslim State, insists on strict observation of all Muslim rites such as the Sultan's Birthday, Hari Raya Puasa, Hari Raya Haji, etc.

Chinese New Year is also observed. National Day is February 23.

See Malaysia for dates of certain holidays.

General

Brunei is located in Southeastern Asia, bordering the South China Sea and Malaysia.

The climate is tropical marine, hot, humid, and rainy.

The terrain consists of flat coastal plains which rise to mountains in the E and hilly lowlands in the W.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the Bruneian Dollar, consisting of 100 cents.

Government

Brunei is a constitutional sultanate. The Sultan rules with a seven member Cabinet. The capital is Bandar Seri Begawan.

Industries

The main industries are based on petroleum, petroleum refining, liquefied natural gas, and construction.

Languages

The official language of Brunei is Malay, but English is often used for official purposes. Chinese is also common.

Regulations

Regulations apply for vessels entering or leaving Brunei Ports.

The master of an arriving vessel in or near any Brunei Port, or navigating close to a Brunei wharf, must report to the department's shipping section and complete an arrival report.

A port clearance document from the last port of call, cargo details, and a list of passengers and crew must also be submitted.

In the case of an oil tanker carrying more than 2,000 tons of petroleum, he must submit an insurance certificate of civil liability for oil pollution damage.

Ships carrying dangerous substances, such as liquefied gases, should produce appropriate qualification certificates.

A master who fails to supply an arrival report is liable to receive a monetary fine. A departing vessel must also go through formalities, with the master completing the various forms and providing certificates.

The regulations are to ensure that vessels have valid navigation certificates and are adequately manned with a qualified crew.

They also will ensure that any accident-damaged vessels are seaworthy.

All ships must show the country in which they are registered and their weight.

Ships not complying will not be given port clearance certificates.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is HOTEL (-8).

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated on the Third floor, Teck Guan Plaza, Jalan Sultan, Bandar Seri Begawan. The mailing address is American Embassy PSC 470 (BSB), FPO AE 96507.